



Republican Policy Committee

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Democrats Back \$291 billion in Higher Taxes

Democrat Taxes Keep Growing and Growing and Growing . . .

Despite their President's admission that he raised taxes too much in 1993, Senate Democrats are at it once again. Just over halfway through the debate on next year's budget, Democrats have already surpassed the all-time tax-hiking mark they set in 1993. It is also interesting to note that none of their proposals has proposed to reduce spending.

"Speaking at a fundraiser for his 1996 re-election campaign in Houston, Clinton said he knew that a lot of people in the room were 'still mad about that budget' that he pushed through a Democratic-majority Congress in 1993 and they 'think I raised their taxes too much.'

'It might surprise you to know that I think I raised them too much too,' the President said." [Reuters News, 10/17/95. Emphasis added to Clinton quotation]

Somehow President Clinton's *mea culpa* has fallen on deaf ears within his own party. To paraphrase an astute Republican observer of Democrats: There they go again. With just 26 of the 50 available hours for debate on the FY 1997 Budget Resolution having been used, Democrat support for increasing federal revenues stands at over \$290 billion! That's an average of over \$10 billion in proposed tax hikes per hour! The list of Democratic amendments submitted thus far to the Budget Resolution bears witness to the President's and his party's willingness to keep raising everyone's taxes "too much," and judging by the number of amendments — far too often as well. Here is a list of Democratic tax amendments to the Budget Resolution (S. Con. Res. 57).

(Figures are seven-year totals based on CBO estimates
or the sponsor's own estimation)

Amendments Pending But Not Yet Voted On:

- **\$18 billion** — Senator Boxer (D-CA) amendment
- **\$0.6 billion** — Senator Wyden (D-WA) amendment
- **\$6.3 billion** — Senator Kerry (D-MA) amendment

- \$48.3 billion — Senator Kerry (D-MA) amendment
- \$64.8 billion — Senator Byrd (D-WV) amendment

Amendments Already Voted On:

- \$13 billion — Exon amendment (defeated: 45-53)
- \$50 billion — Rockefeller amendment (tabled: 55-43)

Taxes Contained in the FY97 Clinton Budget Offered as a Substitute for S. Con. Res. 57 (defeated 45-53):

- \$36 billion — Extend expiring excise taxes in Clinton's budget; and
- \$54 billion — Other revenue provisions.

Pending Democrat Tax Increases: \$138 billion
Democrat Tax Increases Already Voted On: \$153 billion

Total Democrat Tax Increases (proposed and supported): \$291 billion

Like the Energizer Bunny, Democrats continue to beat the drum for more taxes as they keep taxing and taxing and taxing. . . . It is a strange record of achievement given President Clinton's admission that he thought he raised taxes too much just three years ago! But the record speaks for itself:

- ▶ The 1993 Clinton tax increase was \$270 billion.
- ▶ That constituted the largest tax increase in U.S. history.
- ▶ Just halfway into the 1997 budget debate, Senate Democrats have already broken that record.
- ▶ All told, Democrats supported raising taxes by \$291 billion thus far.
- ▶ That's over \$20 billion more than President Clinton has admitted was too much!
- ▶ That averages to over \$10 billion per hour during debate on the budget!

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